

WESTHOUGHTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year 1967.

M.O.H
Westhanger. Annual report, 1967.

Miss Wright E203 24 SEP 1969 25 SEP 1969



Westhoughton Urban District Council

Public Health Committee

Chairman: Councillor J. Smith

Vice Chairman: Councillor H. Booth

Councillors:-

R. Hart

J. T. Willett

R. Greenhalgh

C. J. Thomas

Mrs. W. Kettle

Public Health Officers of the Authority

Medical Officer of Health:

Ellis Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

Wilson Scott Astall

R.S.H. Certificates
Public Health Inspector.
Meat and Other Foods and
Smoke Inspector.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

Walter F. Maling

R.S.H. Certificates
Public Health Inspector
and Meat and Other Foods.

Clerical Assistant:

Miss J. Aldred

Cleansing Foreman:

Albert Chadwick

Technical Assistant (Smoke Control):

Donald Ratcliffe

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present, for your information and consideration, the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District of Westhoughton, for the year, 1967.

STATISTICS

The estimated population of the district in 1967 was 17,330 a decrease of 20 on the figure ascertained for 1966.

During the year a total of 299 births were registered, of which 5 were stillborn, so that the Live Birth Rate for the year under review is 17.0 as against 17.3 the previous year, and the Still Birth Rate 17.0 as against 26.0 in 1966.

Ten infants failed to survive to their first birthday, giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 34.0 for the year, compared with ten deaths and a rate of 33.3 in the previous year.

I am pleased to be able to report that there has been no maternal death. The Maternal Mortality Rate, therefore, remains at nil.

The number of deaths, from all causes, was 211, giving a Crude Death Rate of 12.2 and an adjusted rate of 12.7.

HEALTH SERVICES

The Lancashire County Council, through its Divisional Health Scheme, 1947, has continued to provide the personal health services in the district, details of which will be found in Section B of the Report, together with certain essential information in regard to other services.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

During the year the environmental hygiene of the district has been kept under close supervision. Over five thousand visits were made to premises and nine hundred and ninety three requests for help were received by the Department covering matters such as Public Cleansing; Housing; Food Hygiene and Smoke Control. Regular liaison was maintained with other departments of the Council and the opportunity to express opinions and look at plans especially relating to business premises was especially valuable in relation to the welfare provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963; Food Hygiene and Noise Control.

A regular and satisfactory refuse collection service was maintained throughout the year. An annual cleansing of septic tanks receiving drainage from domestic premises was inaugurated during the year and should do much to ensure that these installations work efficiently. As the volume of household refuse increases due to increased packaging of consumer goods and smoke control the principal of experimenting with the use of $3\frac{1}{4}$ cubic foot plastic dustbins received the approval of the Council. Controlled tipping at the Garnet Fold site, off St. Helens Road continued and all refuse is covered each evening to ensure hygienic conditions and cut down as far as practicable the risk of fire.

Approximately one thousand premises are subject to Smoke Control and a further seven hundred will be added to this figure when the No. 4 Area comes into operation during 1969. A revised plan for smoke control covering the whole district was approved during the year and it is anticipated that steady progress in this field will be maintained. Perhaps more than any other single factor, the cleaning of the air in the north west can improve the environment in which we live and is certainly considered to be of major importance in "Operation Spring Clean".

The Council's Slum Clearance Programme 1967/72 consists of one hundred and thirty five houses. One Clearance Area of ten houses and seven individually unfit houses were represented during the year. Fifteen unfit houses were dealt with by means of informal undertakings to demolish or close once they had been vacated by the present tenants. Progress on Slum Clearance has slowed down due to difficulties relating to new house building. No council houses were built during the year but the construction of forty two dwellings is anticipated over the next two years.

The Council's Home Safety Committee sponsored the distribution of Home Safety literature. Three shop window displays in Market Street and press coverage gave wide publicity to safety around the house. The Lancashire County Council gave help in all these displays and during August brought a trailer into the district which toured the main roads, schools and shopping areas emphasising precautions to be taken in avoiding accidents in the home.

The year can be summed up as one of steady progress over a number of aspects of public health work. The ever expanding range of duties and the increase in technical knowledge required is a challenge to your staff if this progress, which we all desire, is to be maintained.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There has been no serious outbreak of infectious disease during the year.

Details of the various diseases concerned, will be found in Section F of the Report.

Yours faithfully,

E. TAYLOR

Medical Officer of Health

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area of the district in acres	5,554
Population - 1961 census	16,254
Number of inhabited houses at end of year	6,180
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,913

<u>BIRTHS</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
(a)	<u>Live Births</u> - Legitimate	147	133	280
	Illegitimate	6	8	14
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		153	141	294
	Live Birth Rate (Per 1,000 population)	-	17.0	
(b)	<u>Still Births</u>	3	2	5
	Still Birth Rate (Per 1,000 total births)	-	17.0	
(c)	<u>Total Live and Still Births</u>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		156	143	299

(a)	Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	10
(b)	Infant Mortality Rates	
	Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	34.0
	Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	34.0
	Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
(c)	Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	24.0
(d)	Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	14.0
(e)	Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	30.0

DEATHS (cont'd)

(f) Maternal Mortality

Number of deaths

Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate (deaths per 1,000 total
live and stillbirths)

Nil

(g) Cancer

34

(h) Heart Disease

84

(i) Measles

Nil

(j) Whooping Cough

Nil

(k) Bronchitis

6

(l) Pneumonia

11

(m) Tuberculosis - Pulmonary

Nil

Non-Pulmonary

Nil

(n) All causes:-

Male

107

Female

104

Total 211

Death Rate (per 1,000 population)

(a) Crude

12.2

(b) Adjusted

12.7.

Birth and Death Rates, together with Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases
for England and Wales for the year 1967 with corresponding figures for Westhoughton.

Rates per 1,000 Home Population
England and Wales. Westhoughton.

BIRTHS:-

Live Births	17.2		17.0	
Still Births	14.8	(a)	34.0	(a)

DEATHS:-

All Causes	11.2		12.2	
Tuberculosis (all forms)	0.042		Nil	
Respiratory	0.037		Nil	
Non-Respiratory	0.005		Nil	
Cancer (all forms)	2.27		1.96	
Lungs and Bronchus	0.58		0.23	
Other Cancer	1.69		1.73	
Maternal Mortality	0.20	(a)	Nil	(a)
Infant Mortality	18.3	(b)	34.0	(b)
Neo-natal Mortality	12.5	(b)	24.0	(b)

NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)

Typhoid Fever	0.003		Nil	
Paratyphoid Fever	0.002		Nil	
Meningococcal Infection	0.006		Nil	
Scarlet Fever	0.399		0.40	
Whooping Cough	0.693		0.92	
Diphtheria	Nil		Nil	
Erysipelas	0.029		Nil	
Smallpox	Nil		Nil	
Measles	9.511		3.81	
Acute Pneumonia	0.123		Nil	
Acute Poliomyelitis:-				
Paralytic	Nil		Nil	
Non-Paralytic	Nil		Nil	
Acute Encephalitis:-				
Infective	0.002		Nil	
Post Infectious	0.002		Nil	
Dysentery	0.456		Nil	
Food Poisoning	0.104		Nil	
Puerperal Pyrexia	0.086		Nil	
Tuberculosis				
Respiratory	0.228		Nil	
Meninges and C.N.S.	0.003		Nil	
Other	0.042		Nil	
Anthrax	Nil		Nil	

(a) Per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births

(b) Per 1,000 Live Births

The following is a statement showing comparative statistics for the years 1962 - 1967

	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of regis- tered deaths	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of regis- tered deaths	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of regis- tered deaths	Rate per 1,000 live births
Year 1967	299	17.0	211	12.2	5	17.0	Nil	Nil	10	34.0	7	24.0
Year 1966	300	17.3	258	14.9	8	26.0	Nil	Nil	10	33.3	5	16.7
Year 1965	297	17.0	226	13.0	4	13.3	Nil	Nil	2	6.7	2	6.7
Year 1964	304	17.5	219	13.7	3	9.9	Nil	Nil	4	13.3	Nil	Nil
Year 1963	314	18.6	210	13.4	4	12.6	Nil	Nil	13	41.4	5	15.9
Year 1962	294	17.7	199	14.1	6	20.0	Nil	Nil	7	23.8	3	10.2
Average 5 years 1962 - 1966	301	17.6	222	13.8	5.0	16.3	Nil	Nil	57.2	23.7	3.0	9.9

The following table gives the number of deaths
from the various causes, during the year - 1967.

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	1	-	1
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	4	-	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	12	23
Leukaemia aleukaemia	1	1	2
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	15	12	27
Coronary disease, angina	22	15	37
Hypertension with heart disease	3	2	5
Other heart disease	18	24	42
Other circulatory disease	4	2	6
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	6	5	11
Bronchitis	2	4	6
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	2	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	4	-	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	16	23
Motor vehicle accidents	2	2	4
All other accidents	2	2	4
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
Total	107	104	211

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

No material change

SECTION B

General Provision of Health Services for the area

Divisional Medical Officer

Ellis Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
No. 11 Divisional Health Office,
Lancashire County Council,
Leigh Road,
LEIGH, Lancashire.

Telephone: Leigh 73227/8/9

Ambulance Service

Control Centre

Telephone: Swinton 4343

Care of children - Children Act, 1948.

Children's Committee, Lancashire C.C.
Area Children's Officer

- Area 11
- Mr. G. Littlemore,
Williams Deacon's Bank Chambers,
Market Street, Leigh.
Telephone: Leigh 74121.

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.

Telephone: Westhoughton 3139.

Clinics

1. Measles Vaccination

- (a) General Practitioner Service.
- (b) Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.
(Details of present arrangements available on request).

2. Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough Immunisation and Smallpox and Poliomylitis Vaccination.

- (a) General Practitioner Service.
- (b) Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.
Thursday 1.30 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

3. Child Welfare

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.
Tuesday and Thursday 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.
Cricket Pavillion, St. James Street, Westhoughton.
Wednesday 1.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.

4. Child Guidance Clinic (By arrangement)

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.

5. Speech Therapy (By arrangement)

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.

6. Ophthalmic (By appointment)

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton. Wednesday - 9.00 a.m.

7. Chiropody (By appointment)

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton. Monday & Wednesday 9:30 a.m.

8. Orthopaedic (By appointment)

School Health Clinic, Jones Street, Horwich, or Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.

9. Relaxation and Exercises Class for Expectant Mothers

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton. Tuesday 10.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.

10. Cervical Cytology (For prevention and early diagnosis of the cervix)

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton (By appointment)

11. Hearing Testing (By appointment)

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.

12. Dental (By appointment)

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 10.00 a.m.

13. Day Nurseries

There are four nurseries in the division intended primarily for children from nine months to five years, whose mothers have to go out to work because of difficult social circumstances. Application forms may be obtained from the Matron of each of the nurseries, details of which are as follows: LEIGH - Stone House, St. Helens Road (Leigh 72858); Cavendish Street (Leigh 73586); ATHERTON - Gloucester Street (Atherton 248); FARNWORTH - Piggott Street (Farnworth 503).

14. Family Planning Clinics

Information regarding these Clinics is obtainable from the Divisional Health Office or from Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.

15. School Health and Minor Ailment

School Health Clinic, Market Street, Westhoughton. Monday 10.00 a.m.

16. Tuberculosis Dispensary and Chest Clinic

- (a) The Infirmary, Leigh (Telephone: Leigh 73344)
(b) 33 Darley Street, Farnworth (Telephone: Farnworth 63)

17. Venereal Diseases

Confidential treatment is available at the following Clinics:-

- (a) Civic Centre, Bolton.
(b) St. Luke's Clinic, Duke Street, Liverpool Road, Manchester, 3.
(c) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.
(d) Leigh Infirmary, Leigh.

Convalescence

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C. Apply to Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh. Sick bed nursing requisites and appliances are available free on loan from the Divisional Health Office or District Nurses - Mrs. Hulme, 6 Washacre, Westhoughton (Telephone: Westhoughton 3384); Mrs. Barge, 1 Clough Avenue, Westhoughton (Telephone: Westhoughton 3323)

Convalescent Treatment

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board.

Health Visiting Service

Health Visitors/School Nurses are employed full time by the Lancs. C.C. in the district.

Home Help Service

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C. Apply to the Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Home Nursing Service

District Nurses are employed full time in the District by the Lancs.C.C.

Hospitals

Royal Infirmary, Bolton.
Bolton District General Hospital, Farnworth.
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan; and other general and infectious disease hospitals situated in the area of the Regional Hospital Board.

Laboratory Facilities

Regional Hospital Laboratory facilities at Bolton and Wigan Infirmaries and the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

Maternity Homes

"Haslam", "Havercroft" and "Heaton Grange" Maternity Homes, Bolton.
"Firs" Maternity Home, Leigh.

Mental Health

This service is a most important part of the new Health Service, and on application to the Divisional Health Office, information and help can be obtained in respect of the mentally sick and mentally subnormal.

Midwifery Service

Two full time domiciliary midwives are employed in the district by the Lancs. C.C. They are Mrs. J.A. Crabtree, 14 Allenby Grove, Westhoughton (Telephone: Westhoughton 2435) and Miss P. McGowan, 5 Clive Road, Westhoughton (Telephone: Westhoughton 3751).

Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children

Provision for their care is made by the Lancs. C.C.

Welfare Services

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C. residential accommodation for aged or infirm persons is available at Atherleigh Grange and Hourigan House, Leigh and the Winifred Kettle House, Westhoughton and Wilfred Geese House, Farnworth.

Old People's Voluntary Welfare Committee

This body, consisting of representatives of all local voluntary organisations interested in the care and welfare of the aged, works in close association with the statutory services. Amongst the many services it organises and provides, are visiting, chiropody and meals on wheels. The Hon. Secretary is Miss S.E. Whittle, 64 Dobb Brow Road, Westhoughton.

X-Ray Facilities

Available at the Bolton and Wigan Infirmarys. Special facilities for chest X-Ray at the Hospital Board's Dispensaries and Chest Clinics.

SECTION C

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply

Bolton Corporation supply Westhoughton with water which is satisfactory in regard to quality and quantity. There are several sources of supply, but the larger quantity comes from the Lake District. All water is treated before passing into supply.

During the year a total number of 690 samples of raw water were submitted by Bolton to bacteriological examination and partial chemical analysis in their statutory area of supply. In addition 1,482 samples of filtered and treated water received bacteriological examination and showed that the filtered and treated water was of excellent quality. All water is treated before passing into supply.

Tests of the water show there is no significant plumbo-solvent action. No special action was required to be taken in respect of any form of contamination. Water was supplied directly from the public mains to serve the total population of 17,330 persons. No houses are supplied by stand pipes..

During the year 2,906 yards of new water mains were completed and 1,343 yards of existing mains renewed.

The Council paid a grant towards the cost of improving a poor water supply to a domestic dwelling under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1964. A separate service pipe was laid to the main.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

This is largely on the combined system. There is one main sewage disposal plant at Rogers Farm and three subsidiary plants at Dicconson Lane; Dog Holes Farm and Marsh Brook. Difficulties in relation to sewage disposal and main drainage are apparent and towards the end of the year Consultants on instructions from the Council prepared outline proposals for submission to the Ministry, not only to deal with present difficulties, but to cater for an ultimate population in the district of 40,000 persons.

Closet Accommodation

In nearly all cases accommodation consists of fresh water closets. A few pail closets are in use however, where main drainage is not available and certain outlying farms use privy middens. It is anticipated these will be replaced by water closets as the district develops.

Numbers and types of closet accommodation existing at the end of 1967 are shown overleaf, the figures for the end of 1966 being shown in comparison:-

Closet Accommodation (cont'd)

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
Number of privy middens	20	20
Number of closets attached to these middens	24	24
Number of pail closets	42	42
Number of dry ashpits	-	-
Number of moveable ashbins	6927	6882
Number of trough closets	-	-
Number of waste water closets	11	11
Number of fresh water closets	6673	6668

Conversions during 1967:-

Number of privy closets to fresh W.C.'s	-
Number of privy closets to pails	-
Number of waste water closets to fresh water closets	-
Number of premises at which moveable ashbins were substituted for fixed receptacles	-
Trough closets to washdown pedestals	-
Number of pail closets to fresh W.C.'s	-

Three septic tanks were reconstructed during the year to provide more satisfactory treatment of effluents.

Public Cleansing

Refuse collection and disposal is carried out by the Local Authority under the supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector. Eighteen men and four vehicles are employed emptying weekly about 6927 bins; collecting waste paper for salvage and other trade refuse. Larger items of domestic refuse such as old furniture are removed by arrangement with the Department. The Civic Amenities Act, 1967 laid new duties upon Local Authorities aimed broadly at preventing unauthorised dumping of refuse including old motor vehicles. The Council made arrangements with the County Borough of Bolton for residents in the district to dispose of derelict vehicles at their Maze Street tip. Free facilities exist at our Garnet Fold Tip Site for household refuse to be brought to the tip for disposal and these facilities should be particularly helpful to householders wishing to dispose of garden refuse. During the year a 35 cubic yard capacity Pakamatic refuse vehicle was purchased to replace a Fore and Aft tipping vehicle. Two Fore and Aft tipping vehicles and a side loading vehicle are also in use. A weekly collection of refuse was maintained throughout the year.

Controlled tipping continues at the Garnet Fold site, off St. Helens Road, Westhoughton and the use of a rubber tyred four wheel drive loading shovel has proved invaluable in achieving a high standard of control.

Public Cleansing (cont'd)

A total of 316 dustbins were issued during the year under the dustbin replacement scheme relating to domestic premises. Approval was given to experiment in the use of plastic dustbins. These bins have the advantages of lightness and cleanliness and provided hot ashes are not deposited in the bin, should have a long life and improve the hygiene of refuse collection. A limited number of paper sacks are in use at flats and out-lying premises.

Street cleansing including litter collection is carried out under the supervision of the Engineer and Surveyor.

Salvage

The collection of waste paper and tins was as follows:-

	<u>waste paper</u>	<u>Loose tins</u>	<u>Income</u>
1967	107 tons 17 cwts.	6 tons 3 cwts. 1 qr.	£867
1966	111 tons 16 cwts. 1 qr.	19 tons 3 cwts. 2 qrs.	£921

Tins have continued to be removed from the tip in the normal process of controlled tipping.

Public Health Inspections

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
Premises visited	3,666	1,654
Number of visits:-	5,049	4,111
Housing and nuisances	1,788	1,761
Factories	47	70
Infectious diseases	44	10
Food poisoning	-	-
Rodent control	3	7
Offensive trade	61	34
Schools	12	7
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963	70	158
Shops (Employment of Young Persons)	452	458
Slaughterhouses	-	248
Food premises	398	563
Clean Air	1,936	720
Miscellaneous	214	135
Noise	24	40
Defects or nuisances:-		
Number discovered	906	344
Number abated	420	1,196
No. of Notices served:-		
Informal	145	238
Statutory	20	7

Public Health Inspections (cont'd)

There was again a considerable increase of inspections carried out under the Clean Air Act 1956. Nine hundred and ninety three requests for attention to a wide range of matters were recorded in the Office during the year. Many residents look to the Public Health Department for help in matters which affect the environment in which they live and the prompt and personal attention they receive is conducive not only to good public relations but is a measure of the strength of the smaller Local Authority administration. The Chief Public Health Inspector attended a course on Noise Control at Salford University and a number of noise problems were successfully dealt with during the year. It is suggested that manufacturers of equipment which is likely to cause noise should advise their clients at the time of installation of the best practicable means of combating noise. Noise control is best considered at an early stage rather than endeavouring to find remedies when nuisance has arisen.

Outwork

There were 11 outworkers in the district. 10 were employed packing Xmas Crackers and one employed on garment manufacture.

Shops

There were 452 inspections of shops carried out in relation to hours of employment of young persons under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950. Individual contraventions were reported to Lancashire County Council for action.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

This Act relates to the welfare of office and shop workers. There were one hundred and four registered premises in the district at the end of the year. This figure included sixty five retail shops; nineteen offices and seventeen catering establishments. Seventy inspections of registered premises were carried out. The number of persons employed at registered premises totalled four hundred and forty nine - two hundred and four males and two hundred and forty five females.

Three accidents were reported during the year. None of these were fatal. A female shop assistant slipped on a floor; a young butcher's assistant cut his finger while cutting meat and another female assistant suffered sever abdominal strain while lifting cartons in a storeroom.

A summary of cases where compliance has been requested and of work done is given below:-

Requirements of the Act relating to:-	No. of cases where compliance requested	No. of cases where work done
Sanitary conveniences	-	8
Washing facilities	3	1

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963 (cont'd)

Requirements of the Act relating to:-	No. of cases where compliance requested	No. of cases where work done
Cleanliness	1	8
Overcrowding	-	1
Temperature	1	6
Ventilation	-	5
Lighting	3	9
Drinking water	-	-
Accommodation for clothing	-	1
Sitting facilities	-	1
Seats for sedentary workers	-	-
Eating facilities	-	-
Floors, passages, stairs	1	4
Thermometers	1	3
First Aid	2	8
Fencing of machinery	-	-
Abstract of the Act	2	8

Offensive Trades

Sixty one inspections of a fat melters premises were carried out. The premises are kept under constant review to minimise as far as practicable nuisance from odour. Consultants have been engaged to report upon the premises with a view primarily of endeavouring, as far as practicable, to improve odour control.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the district.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no swimming baths or pools in the district.

Disinfestation

During the year infestations of insects were dealt with at sixteen premises. Nine premises were treated against cockroach infestation using dieldrin powder or insecticidal lacquer. Several ant infestations and one infestation by bugs received treatment.

Schools

The water supply to the schools in the area was found to be constant and sufficient. All schools now have modern type water closets and seven inspections were carried out during the year. Regular cleansing and decoration of the conveniences is carried out. Inspections of school meals facilities and kitchens were carried out during the year and advice given as necessary.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

There are no premises in the area where rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

Rodent Control

During 1967 the work of rodent control continued, the Cleansing Foreman carrying out treatment.

All rats and mice infestations are promptly dealt with, private dwellings being treated free of charge. Treatment of business premises is charged on a basis of men's time and materials used. Some resistance to Warfarin has been noted in relation to mice and a new poison "Alphakil" has been used with success.

Two hundred and one premises were inspected and six hundred and seventy six visits made to property either for the purposes of survey or for dealing with infestations. One hundred and seventy rat infestations and eighty seven mice infestations were found and treatment carried out. Fifty one inspections of agricultural properties were undertaken in the course of the year. The treatment of the sewers using warfarin poison plus a bait preservative, was carried out as usual.

Moveable Dwellings

Little action was necessary in relation to moveable dwellings. Advice was given when required on the conditions normally imposed on sites licensed under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. One site license was in operation during the year but no caravan was actually stationed on the site. One site certified by the Caravan Club for use by their members only as an overnight halt exists in the district.

CLEAN AIR

Smoke Control

Fifty one observations of industrial chimneys were carried out during the year. Three new oil fired boilers were installed and recommendations as to chimney heights were made where appropriate.

The Council's No. 3 Smoke Control Order at Wingates came into operation in October, 1967. Gas fires were installed in about fifty council houses in the area and have proved popular and trouble free. Fan assisted solid fuel fires were installed at about one hundred houses. There appears to be a trend towards the popularity of piped fuels especially where housewives are out working during the day. Approximately one thousand premises are now subject to smoke control. A revised smoke control programme covering the whole district in stages was approved by the Council and a survey of dwellings in the proposed No. 4 Smoke Control Area at Over Hulton was being carried out towards the end of the year. Over eighteen hundred visits were made to premises by the Smoke Control Technical Assistant during the year.

Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution.

Smoke and sulphur dioxide measurement has continued throughout the year at the Library Street site, and as in previous years pollution was highest during the months October to March when domestic fires were in general use.

Although there was a slight increase in the yearly average reading of smoke pollution, 145 microgrammes per cubic metre of air, compared with 136 for 1966, this was largely brought about by particularly adverse weather conditions in November, the average monthly readings in general being less than for 1966. There was however a further overall clearance in sulphur dioxide pollution, 140 microgrammes per cubic metre of air, compared with 153 for 1966.

SECTION D

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Milk Supply

Dairy farmers are registered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Licences to sell special designated milk, namely, "Pasteurised", "Sterilised", "Ultra Heat Treated" and "Untreated" are issued by Lancashire County Council as Food and Drugs Authority for the area. Milk Distributors licences continue to be issued by the Council.

Action taken by the local authority in relation to samples taken in the district:-

a) Raw Milk

(i) Tuberculosis - Biological Test

No. of samples	9	No. negative	9	No. positive	Nil
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(ii) Brucellosis - Ring Test

No. of samples	126	No. negative	86	No. positive	40
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Brucellosis - Culture Test

No. of samples	44	No. negative	35	No. positive	9
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Brucellosis - Biological Test

No. of samples	12	No. negative	10	No. positive	2
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(iii) Methylene Blue Reduction Test

No. of samples	47	No. satisfactory	43	No. unsatisfactory	1
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No. void	3
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b) "Heat Treated" milk - pasteurised

(i) Phosphatase Test

No. of samples	8	No. satisfactory	8	No. unsatisfactory	Nil
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(ii) Methylene Blue Reduction Test

No. of samples	8	No. satisfactory	8	No. unsatisfactory	Nil
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Six cattle infected with brucellosis were slaughtered. Notice to pasteurise milk from a herd of 53 cattle was served upon a milk producer in November, 1966 under the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1959 because of infection of the herd with brucellosis. The Notice was withdrawn in June of this year following satisfactory culture samples.

No notifications of tuberculous milk were forwarded to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Ice-Cream

Eighty two premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream, which is "pre-packed" with the exception of one shop selling a "Cold Mix" product and a manufacturer's premises producing "Hot Mix" ice-cream.

Nine samples of ice-cream were taken during the year and all were found to be in the provisional Grade 1.

Ninety nine inspections in relation to premises and vehicles were carried out during the year.

Shell Fish

No cases of illness due to consumption of shell fish were reported.

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.

Four samples of liquid egg submitted to the Alpha-Amylase test proved satisfactory. There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district.

Food premises

No. of food premises, by type of business, in the district at the end of the year:-

Type of business	No.	A	B	C
General grocers and provision dealers	70	70	70	70
Greengrocers and fruiterers	12	12	12	12
Fishmongers	2	2	2	2
Meat Shops	16	16	16	16
Bakers and/or confectioners	17	17	17	17
Fried Fish Shops	11	11	11	11
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, min-erals, ice-cream etc.	7	7	7	7
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, snack bars, catering establishments.	42	42	42	42

NOTE; Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 in table above

- A - Premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16 relating to washbasins.
- B - Premises to which Regulation 19 relating to sinks applies.
- C - Premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19 in relation to sinks for washing food or equipment.

A total of 398 visits were made to food premises during the year. 92 defects were found under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 and 46 defects were remedied during the year.

The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls & Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966 came into force at the beginning of the year and broadly speaking require similar standards of food hygiene in mobile shops, delivery vehicles and markets as are required in food premises. A report was prepared on the implication of the Regulations in relation to the Council's Market where only "closed food" apart from fruit and greengrocery is sold. A scheme for a general improvement of the Market including matters relating to food hygiene was approved subject to the preparation of details for the Council's consideration. Limited work was carried out in relation to mobile shops and this work will of course continue in the day to day routine of food hygiene inspections.

The correct use of frozen food cabinets; stock rotation and strict attention to cleanliness was emphasised during the inspection of food shops.

Meat

No slaughterhouses were in operation in the district during the year. The inspection of meat and meat products is carried out at food shops as a routine procedure.

Food Condemned

The following foodstuffs were condemned and surrendered:-

Tinned meat	691 lbs.	Tinned fish	35 lbs.
Tinned fruit	392 lbs.	Tinned soup	32 lbs.
Tinned vegetables	460 lbs.	Pickling onions	5 tons 18 cwts.
Tinned rice pudding	67 lbs.	Cauliflower	12 casks
Frozen liquid egg	56 lbs.	Vinegar	500 gallons
Tomato juice	4 lbs.		

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The Lancashire County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority in the district. The County Medical Officer of Health has kindly supplied me with the following information:-

A total of 140 samples was obtained comprising 100 milks (11 of which were Channel Island milk) and 40 others as follows:-

1 Fresh Fish	1 Dripping
1 Fresh Chicken	1 Fresh Fruit
1 Lambs Liver	1 Fish Cakes
1 Beefburger	1 Groundnut Oil
1 Beef Sausage	1 Ice Cream
1 Bacon	1 Tea
1 Meat Pie	1 Cooking Fat
1 Lard	1 Meat with Gravy and vegetables, canned.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. (cont'd)

1 Potted Meat (Loose)	1 Fruit Curd
4 Plain Flour	1 Pie Filling
1 Extract of Malt B.P.C.	1 Malt, Milk and Cocoa Beverage
1 Cod Liver Oil B.P.	1 Mixed Sausages
3 Cough Medicine	1 Flour Confectionery
2 Pork Sausage	1 Canned Peas
1 Benadryl Elixir	1 Arrowroot
1 Glycerin B.P.	1 Saccharin Tablets
1 Tincture of Iodine B.P.	1 Cooked Meat

I give below details of those samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:-

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Formal milk.	Fat 3.80%. Deficient 5% fat.	Producer cautioned and further sample obtained.
Meat with Gravy and vegetables, canned.	Meat content 43%. Canned Meat Regulations, 1967, will require 50%.	Manufacturers informed.
Flour Confectionery	Contained a dead housefly (Musca species) measuring 6 millimetres in length and weighing 10 milligrams.	Prosecution Fined £10 Costs £9. 6. 0.
Formal milk	Freezing point indicates 3.5% extraneous water.	Producer cautioned and further sample obtained.
Canned peas	Contained one ground beetle (family Carabidae) weighing 0.13 gramme and measuring 17.5 millimetres in length.	Manufacturers cautioned.

Poultry Inspection

(1)	Number of poultry processing premises within the district	1
(11)	Number of visits to these premises	106
(111)	Total number of birds processed during the year	68,775
(1V)	Types of birds processed - hens; broilers; capons; turkeys.	
(V)	Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption..	0.48%
(VI)	Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption.	1231 lbs.

Poultry Inspection (cont'd)

- (V1) Comments on poultry processing and inspectionFrequent visits are made to the premises and carcasses showing evidence of disease are rejected by the operator or in doubtful cases set aside for inspection by the Public Health Department. Bacteriological samples of drainage effluent from the plant and swabs from carcasses and processing tables were taken during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory. All samples were reported as free from typhoid and salmonella organisms. Improvement of processing techniques was achieved during the year..

SECTION E

Housing

Statistics

Forty eight dwellings were completed during the year by private builders. No council houses were completed but the erection of forty-two dwellings are contemplated in spite of difficulties in finding land for houses because of sewerage problems.

Conditions - General Observations

1,271 dwellings in Westhoughton are owned and maintained by the Council and this number represents about 20% of domestic properties in the district. About 87% of the privately owned dwellings are owner/occupied. The Council continue to give every encouragement for owners to improve their houses where the property has a satisfactory life of at least 15 years.

Sufficiency of Supply of Houses

There are 376 applicants on the Council's Housing List. 314 of the applicants are however already householders and 93 of these applicants are Council tenants desiring council accommodation. The main housing requirements relate to rehousing from the Council's Slum Clearance Programme. The Council carried out a pilot scheme of improvement at two council houses as a preliminary exercise in improving a further thirty nine houses. The principal has been accepted of seeking to maintain a programme of improving pre-war Council houses especially in relation to bathroom and kitchen facilities and electricity points.

Fitness of Houses

One thousand and seventy inspections were carried out during the year in relation to the fitness of houses. Defects were remedied at 120 houses as a result of the service of notices or other action by the Department. The number and type of defects found and remedied by the end of the year are shown below:-

Type of Defects at dwellinghouses	Found	Remedied
Drains	60	63
Roofs	40	13
Chimneys	38	5
Eavesgutters	51	24
Rainwater pipes	13	14
Walls	71	24
Damp	112	42
Wallplaster	89	30
Ceiling plaster	72	23

Fitness of Houses (cont'd)

Type of Defects at dwellinghouses	Found	Remedied
Sinks	5	6
Sink Waste	14	7
Skirtings	-	-
Floors	48	3
Stairs	4	2
Windows	95	52
Ventilation	2	-
Doors	34	12
Food storage	18	-
Food preparation	-	-
Food cooking	-	-
Lighting (Natural)	46	-
Firegrates	-	4
Closets	30	14
Yards and passages	13	18
Other defects	-	-
	<hr/> Total 855 <hr/>	<hr/> 348 <hr/>

One Clearance Area consisting of ten dwellings was represented as unfit and twenty-two individual unfit houses were represented or the subject of informal report during the year. Six families were rehoused from unfit dwellings. One Closing Order was revoked after substantial renovation had been carried out. A new Slum Clearance Programme was formulated during the year, for the period 1967/1972 and consisted of one hundred and thirty five unfit properties. A slackening in the demolition of unfit houses and rehousing of families has taken place because of difficulty in providing new sites for house building.

Forty-one applications for Standard Improvement Grants to provide the five standard amenities - i.e. a fixed bath or shower; a wash hand basin; a hot water supply; an internally situated water closet and satisfactory food storage facilities; were approved. Work was completed at thirty-one houses. Discretionary Grant was made in the case of one dwelling. The number of Standard Grants have approximately doubled compared to the previous year. Every encouragement is given to improve and preserve houses which are structurally sound and have an estimated life of at least 15 years.

The Council loaned the services of the Additional Public Health Inspector in carrying out, in co-operation with other inspectors, a North West Conurbation Housing Survey for the Ministry of Housing & Local Government. It is anticipated this survey will help to formulate Ministry policy in assisting Councils to deal with the improvement and repair of houses.

SECTION F

Prevalence of, and control over infectious and other diseases

Diphtheria

No case occurred in the district. The need to continue immunisation however, remains.

Dysentery

No case was notified.

Erysipelas

One case was notified.

Food Poisoning

This disease is notifiable under Section 26 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. No cases were notified during the year.

Measles

A total of 66 notifications were received.

Meningococcal Infection

No case was notified.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever

No case was notified.

Poliomyelitis

No case reported. It may be of some interest to record that in October a notification of a case of paralytic poliomyelitis was received. The child was aged 2 years and was fully immunised with Sabin oral vaccine. The result of the initial culture was indeterminate, but appeared to be either an Adeno virus or possibly an Echo virus. It was not considered to be a poliomyelitis virus but in view of the previous immunisation it was felt important to establish the exact identity of the organism. Eventually this was achieved and was proved to be Echo virus type 3.

Puerperal Pyrexia

No case was notified.

Scarlet Fever

Five cases were notified as against seven cases in 1966. Again this disease was mild in character and no complications were reported.

Section F (cont'd)

Smallpox

No case or contact reported.

Tuberculosis

No new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year.

Whooping Cough

Sixteen cases were notified.

Acute Pneumonia

No case was notified.

Corrected cases of infectious disease (other than tuberculosis)
notified during the year 1967.

Cases notified													
	Total cases all ages	Under 1	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	Age un-known	Total Death	Cases re-moved to Hosp-ital
Diphtheria	-												
Dysentery	-												
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	-												
Erysipelas	-												
Food Poisoning	-												
Measles	66	3	22	16	25								
Meningococcal Infection	-												
Acute Pneumonia	-												
Polioencephalitis	-												
Poliomyelitis	-												
Paratyphoid Fever	-												
Puerperal Pyrexia	-												
Scarlet Fever	5	-	2	3									
Smallpox	-												
Whooping Cough	16	1	2	7	6								
Total	87	4	26	26	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Tuberculosis

New Cases and Mortality during 1967

New Cases				Deaths				
	Respiratory		Non respiratory		Respiratory		Non respiratory	
Years	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
5								
10								
15								
20								
25								
35								
45								
55								
65								
and over								
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-		-		-		-	

Number of cases on Register at end of year:-

Respiratory Tuberculosis: 27

Non-respiratory Tuberculosis: 12

SECTION G

Factories Act, 1961

Visits to factories during the year showed that standards of sanitary accommodation are generally satisfactory. Co-operation with firms was good and legal action to enforce the provisions of the Factories Act was found unnecessary. Cotton Spinning and Weaving; Steel Erecting; Metal Box Manufacture; Manufacturing Chemists; Paint; Raincoat and Plasterboard Manufacture are the chief industries in the area.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	1	Nil	Nil
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	72	40	2	Nil
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (excluding outworkers premises).	6	6	1	Nil
	82	47	3	Nil

Factories Act, 1961 (cont'd)

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Defects (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H. M. Insp.(4)	By H. M. Insp.(5)	
Want of cleanliness (s.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out work	-	-	-	-	-
	3	3	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act -Eleven outworkers are employed in the district.

Nature of work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out workers in August list required by Sec. 110 (1) C. (2)	No. of defaults in send- ing lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in un- wholesome premises (5)	Notices Served (6)	Prosecu- tions (7)
Packing Xmas Crackers	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Garment Manufacture	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

